



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 937**

January Session, 2007

\* \_\_\_\_\_SB00937F IN\_\_050107\_\_\_\_\_\*

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN OFFICE OF MILITARY AFFAIRS AND IMPLEMENTING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION FOR THE ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION OF SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2007*) (a) There is established  
2 an Office of Military Affairs within the Department of Economic and  
3 Community Development for administrative purposes only. The  
4 Office of Military Affairs shall promote and coordinate state-wide  
5 activities that enhance the quality of life of all branches of military  
6 personnel and their families and to expand the military and homeland  
7 security presence in this state.

8 (b) The Governor, in consultation with the Commissioner of  
9 Economic and Community Development, shall appoint an executive  
10 director to manage the daily activities and duties of the Office of  
11 Military Affairs. Within available appropriations, the executive  
12 director shall: (1) Appoint, employ and remove such assistants,  
13 employees and personnel as deemed necessary for the efficient and  
14 effective administration of the activities of the office; (2) coordinate  
15 state and local efforts to prevent the closure or downsizing of  
16 Connecticut military facilities, particularly United States Naval  
17 Submarine Base-New London, located in Groton; (3) maximize the  
18 state's input into the federal Base Realignment and Closure or "BRAC"  
19 process, including, but not limited to, (A) acting as liaison to the state's

20 congressional delegation on defense, military and BRAC issues, and  
21 (B) acting as liaison to consultant lobbyists hired by the state to assist  
22 in monitoring activities related to BRAC; (4) encourage the relocation  
23 of military missions to the state; (5) coordinate state and local efforts to  
24 enhance the quality of life of all branches of military personnel and  
25 their families living or working in Connecticut; (6) review and make  
26 recommendations for state policies that affect Connecticut's military  
27 facilities and defense and homeland security industries; (7) coordinate  
28 state, regional and local efforts to encourage the growth of  
29 Connecticut's defense and homeland security industry; (8) support the  
30 development of a Defense and Homeland Security Industry Cluster;  
31 (9) establish and coordinate a Connecticut Military and Defense  
32 Advisory Council to provide technical advice and assistance; (10)  
33 oversee the implementation of recommendations of the Governor's  
34 Commission for the Economic Diversification of Southeastern  
35 Connecticut; and (11) prepare and submit a report of activities,  
36 findings and recommendations annually to the Governor and the joint  
37 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
38 matters relating to commerce and public safety, in accordance with the  
39 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

40 Sec. 2. Section 4-5 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
41 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

42 As used in sections 4-6, 4-7 and 4-8, the term "department head"  
43 means Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management,  
44 Commissioner of Administrative Services, Commissioner of Revenue  
45 Services, Banking Commissioner, Commissioner of Children and  
46 Families, Commissioner of Consumer Protection, Commissioner of  
47 Correction, Commissioner of Economic and Community Development,  
48 State Board of Education, Commissioner of Emergency Management  
49 and Homeland Security, Commissioner of Environmental Protection,  
50 Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of Public Health,  
51 Insurance Commissioner, Labor Commissioner, Liquor Control  
52 Commission, Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services,  
53 Commissioner of Public Safety, Commissioner of Social Services,

54 Commissioner of Mental Retardation, Commissioner of Motor  
55 Vehicles, Commissioner of Transportation, Commissioner of Public  
56 Works, Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs, Commissioner of Health  
57 Care Access, Chief Information Officer, the chairperson of the Public  
58 Utilities Control Authority, the executive director of the Board of  
59 Education and Services for the Blind, the executive director of the  
60 Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism, [and] the  
61 Ombudsman for Property Rights and the executive director of the  
62 Office of Military Affairs.

63 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 32-235 of the general statutes is  
64 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
65 *1, 2007*):

66 (b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent of the  
67 amount stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the  
68 Department of Economic and Community Development for the  
69 purposes of sections 32-220 to 32-234, inclusive, including economic  
70 cluster-related programs and activities, and for the Connecticut job  
71 training finance demonstration program pursuant to sections 32-23uu  
72 and 32-23vv provided, (1) three million dollars shall be used by said  
73 department solely for the purposes of section 32-23uu and not more  
74 than five million two hundred fifty thousand dollars of the amount  
75 stated in said subsection (a) may be used by said department for the  
76 purposes of section 31-3u, (2) not less than one million dollars shall be  
77 used for an educational technology grant to the deployment center  
78 program and the nonprofit business consortium deployment center  
79 approved pursuant to section 32-41l, (3) not less than two million  
80 dollars shall be used by said department for the establishment of a  
81 pilot program to make grants to businesses in designated areas of the  
82 state for construction, renovation or improvement of small  
83 manufacturing facilities provided such grants are matched by the  
84 business, a municipality or another financing entity. The  
85 [commissioner] Commissioner of Economic and Community  
86 Development shall designate areas of the state where manufacturing is  
87 a substantial part of the local economy and shall make grants under



**FIN**      *Joint Favorable*